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Jordan Times

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Today's Weather

It will be fair. Winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Amman, it will be cloudy with northerly winds and calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
Amman	Low 7	High 12
Aqaba	13	21
Deserts	6	11
Jordan Valley	12	22

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 13, Aqaba 20. Sunset tonight: 4:38 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow: 6:37 a.m.

AMMAN, MONDAY DECEMBER 29, 1980 — SAFAR 22, 1401

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

U.S. accepted our terms, Iran says

Tehran reveals Carter's replies on hostages issue

TEHRAN, Dec. 28 (R) — Iran today published U.S. government documents showing that President Jimmy Carter pledged to unfreeze Iranian assets, nullify legal claims against Iran and freeze any wealth of the late Shah or his close family traceable in the U.S. whenever the American hostages were released.

The documents — the original U.S. response to Iran's demands plus later American clarifications — showed that President Carter committed himself to meeting every Iranian demand within his power the moment the 52 captives were freed.

Iran, however, apparently declined to trust the U.S. president's word and later insisted that Washington deposit cash guarantees totalling \$24 billion in Algeria before the hostages could be released.

The U.S. documents suggested that Washington and Tehran were close to the basis of an agreement last month before the Iranians demanded the cash guarantees.

Both the White House and the State Department declined comment.

The publication of the U.S. position by the official Pars news agency, and a speech last night by Prime Minister Mohammad Ali Rajai to foreign diplomats, appeared aimed at supporting Iran's contention that the U.S. government had gone back on its earlier efforts to free the hostages, now in their 421st day of captivity.

Ironically, three of the hostages were being held only a few metres from the Foreign Ministry reception hall where Mr. Rajai addressed the diplomats. One of the three, Mr. Bruce Laingen, was U.S. charge d'affaires when taken captive and many of the diplomats present were close friends of his.

Mr. Rajai accused Washington of not wanting to solve the hostage issue and reiterated that the captives would remain in Iran until all legal disputes over money claimed by Tehran were resolved.

He did not clarify whether this meant only Iranian assets, some of which are the subject of disputes over legal claims, or also the wealth of the late Shah and his family.

The foreign diplomats who listened to Mr. Rajai said his speech indicated that Iran wanted to hurry the sluggish hostage negotiations along.

There are considerable divisions among Iran's leaders, particularly between the hardline Muslim clerics and the more moderate lay politicians, and the hostage issue could become an increasingly important factor in domestic Iranian politics, western diplomats said.

Iran's Majlis (parliament), following guidelines set by religious revolutionary leader Ayatollah

and a White House official said Mr. Carter was uncomfortable but not out of commission.

One of the three envoys, Algeria's ambassador to Iran, Mr. Abdelkarim Gheraieb, met with all 52 hostages Thursday and Friday before flying here yesterday to join the talks.

He has said he found the captives to be in "good shape" and that their major complaint was unreliable mail deliveries.

A U.S. official, who asked not to be identified, said the weekend meetings centred on the issue of whether Iran would be willing to retreat from its \$24 billion price tag for freeing the hostages.

He said the administration was approaching the discussions mindfully that, in business transactions in

together for relay to Iranian authorities.

Demonstrators at a religious mass rally in Tehran today read out a resolution calling on the Iranian authorities to fix a deadline for the U.S. to accept Iran's conditions for freeing the American hostages. Pars reported.

The agency said the resolution included a call on the government and the Majlis "to determine a deadline for the United States to accept the conditions proposed by Iran on the hostages."

Hundreds of thousands of Iranians marched through the capital to mark Arba'in, the 40th day after the anniversary of the martyrdom of the third Imam (leader) of the Shi'ite Muslims.

Speaking on the occasion of Arba'in, Ayatollah Khomeini today compared Mr. Carter's human rights record with that of former Soviet leader Joseph Stalin, in a speech reported by Tehran Radio.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), quoted the ayatollah as saying: "There are some presidents in this world who claim to represent human rights... (but) once they are elected they fail to pass the test..."

"Stalin, too, claimed that he wanted to work for people and lead them to freedom. However, once in office he destroyed them on a massive scale. The same claim is made by Carter."



Mayor Bassam Shak'a receives a bouquet during a visit on Sunday to Al Hussein refugee camp in n. Story and more photos on page 2. (Staff photo by Yousef Ali 'Allan)

Soviets protest over embassy raid

Dec. 28 (R) — The Soviet Union protested to Iran but yesterday's demonstrations by some 5,000 Afghans at the embassy in Tehran and Iranian authorities of failure to take adequate measures to free the embassy.

The Iranian authorities had been informed well in advance of preparations for an attack on the embassy.

"But despite this they did not take urgent and effective enough measures to prevent such an attack," the note said.

This appeared to be a reference to a Soviet call on the Iranian authorities last July for tighter protection for the Tehran

embassy.

The note said that "raging elements armed with clubs and stones and knives broke into the embassy, violating its diplomatic status."

Scores of demonstrators, protesting against the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan a year ago, broke into the embassy compound, smashed windows and burned the Soviet flag before they were ejected by Iranian authorities.

"It was only after numerous and insistent demands by the Soviet ambassador that the Iranian authorities intervened and took measures to remove the attackers from the territory of the embassy," the note added.

Further indicating that Moscow holds Tehran responsible for the incident, the note stated: "The Soviet Union reserves the right to consider the question of appropriate measures to protect the lawful interests of the Soviet Union in connection with the hostile actions of the Iranian side against the USSR embassy in Tehran."

Kissinger lands in Cairo

Dec. 28 (AP) — Former U.S. secretary of state Henry Kissinger arrived today on the first leg of a five-nation Middle East tour for President-elect Ronald Reagan's incoming administration.

He reported at the Cairo airport that he has come to the "a private citizen to see old friends," but he added that he has "a special mission" to the Reagan administration.

Kissinger said he came to the area carrying no proposals to the deadlocked in the Palestinian autonomy talks involving Israel and the United States. He also said that he has "not for an assignment" to the region.

Kissinger is also to visit Saudi Arabia, Oman and Morocco.

Iraq, Iran exchange attacks as war ends 14th week

UT, Dec. 24 (Agencies) — The Iran-Iraq war finished its 14th week today signs 40 Islamic heads of state will move next to bring about a ceasefire.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait served separate notices that they would mediate an Islamic summit conference to end the old conflict. Both expressed fears a prolonged war could be a superpower confrontation.

Iran's state minister for cabinet affairs, Mr. Abdul Aziz Husni, said his nation, the closest to the war theatre, pins its hopes on the Jan. 24 Islamic summit in Mecca to halt the "human and economic hemorrhage."

Iran followed a declaration by Saudi Arabia's information minister, Mr. Mohammad Abdo Yamani, that the Mecca summit would take up the war issue and "reach fair resolutions that serve the rights of both sides with their land and borders." Yamani said all 42 Islamic nations of the world have accepted to attend the Mecca summit, including Iran and Iraq. Independent Kuwaiti newspaper Al Qabas said Saudi Arabia has been intense efforts to ascertain that Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr will attend. However, a spokesman for the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, Mr. Nouruddin Mazne, said that Egypt and Afghanistan had not yet agreed to attend the summit.

The organisation suspended Egypt for signing a peace treaty with Israel and banned Afghanistan following the Soviet military intervention in the country a year ago.

The secretary general of the organisation, Dr. Habib Charti, told the Saudi Press Agency last night that he expects the Mecca summit to play "a big role" in mediating in the Gulf war. He also said that in addition to the Iraq-Iran war, the summit would include Afghanistan, the Middle East problem and a "declaration" containing a programme for Islamic solidarity and cooperation.

co-sponsor a ceasefire resolution at the summit and probably seek the resurrection of a goodwill commission made up of six Islamic heads of state to oversee the standstill.

The commission, the reports said, would be headed by Pakistan's president, Gen. Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, who undertook a futile peacekeeping trip to Tehran and Baghdad shortly after the outbreak of the war on Sept. 22.

War communiques from the two antagonists spoke of air and sea attacks today as paratroopers and ground forces fought in static positions in Iran's southwestern oil province of Khuzestan, the western highlands of Gilan Gharb and the northwestern province of Kurdistan, recently attacked by Iraq.

An Iraqi communique said an Iranian "medium-size naval target" was sunk in the embattled Shatt-Al-Arab waterway as raiding Iraqi jets and helicopter gunships set two more fuel storage tanks ablaze in Iran's oil-refining city of Abadan. The giant complex has been burning since the early days of the war.

A communique from the Iranian high command reported para-

troopers locked in hand-to-hand fighting with Iraqi forces in the foothills of Zagros Mountains in western Iran and Kurdistan's Marivan and Piranshahr regions in the northwest.

The communique claimed three strategic bluffs overlooking the Marivan Lake were recaptured from the Iraqis and Iraq-armed Kurdish insurgents seeking to proclaim a breakaway state in Kurdistan.

An Iraqi war communique broadcast by Baghdad Radio said fierce battles developed overnight at the besieged highway town of Susangerd and at Abadan. Iraqi defences shot down one Iranian helicopter gunship at each place.

The communique claimed 222 Iranian soldiers were killed in the fighting during the last 24 hours. It conceded 10 Iraqi deaths. Iran claimed 100 Iraqis killed in fighting around Abadan and 110 killed or wounded around Susangerd.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein declared on Thursday that he had ordered his army to attack Iran's Kurdish-populated regions to put added pressure on Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's regime in Tehran to get to the negotiating table on Iraq's terms.

Kuwait seeks stronger pan-Arab ties in Gulf

BAHRAIN, Dec. 28 (R) — Kuwait has called for stronger ties among the Gulf's Arab states as a basis for improved security in the area.

"Our concept is based on the strengthening of all relations—political, economic, petroleum, cultural and military — among the Arab states in the Gulf," Kuwait's heir-apparent and prime minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, told the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Qabas today.

The revolution in Iran, the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and, more recently, the Iraq-Iran war have made security an immediate concern of the Gulf rulers.

Saudi Arabia said recently the Gulf countries were studying its draft agreements on bilateral cooperation in security affairs as a step towards a common security pact.

The Kuwaiti security plan, of which Sheikh Saad gave no details, would exclude Iran.

Sheikh Saad said the Gulf's leaders had given their blessing to the Kuwaiti concept as first put to them by the amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, during last month's Arab summit conference in Amman.

He said the amir wrote last week to leaders of the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and Iraq giving full details of the plan.

The letters were delivered by the Kuwaiti foreign minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah. Depending on the reaction of Gulf rulers, a ministerial conference might be held in Kuwait to discuss the matter, and a Gulf committee might then be created to implement the agreed strategy, Sheikh Saad said.

Mr. Carter decided to meet the Algerians even though he broke his left collarbone yesterday while cross-country skiing at Camp David. His left arm is in a sling.

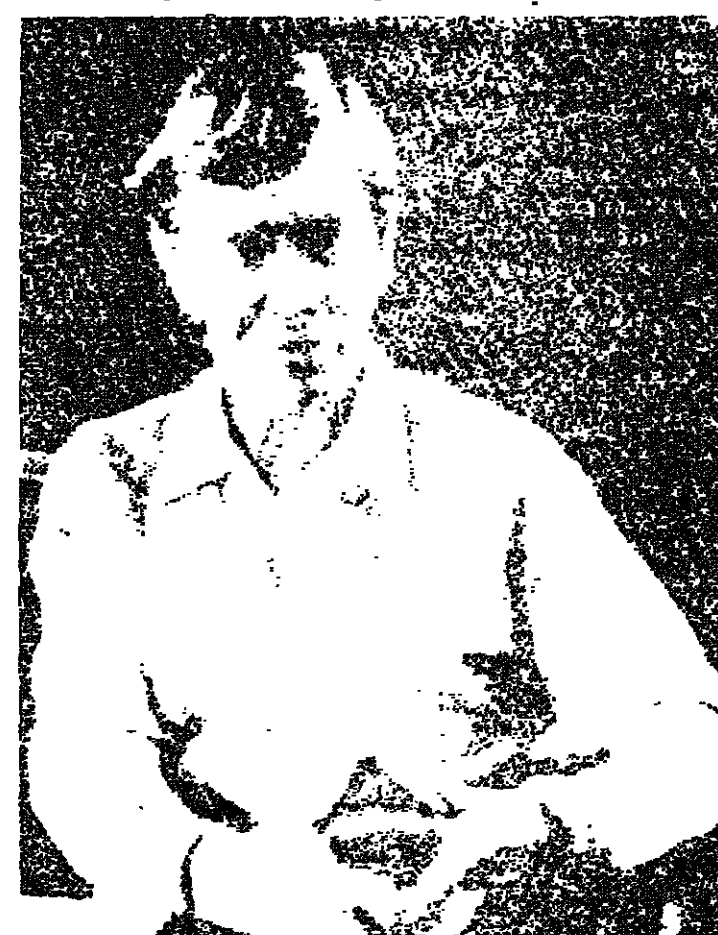
the Middle East, there often is a big gap between the initial asking price and the final price.

Before today's meeting, the official said yesterday's day-long talks were devoted to a "thorough analysis" of the basis of the Iranian position, as interpreted by the Algerians, and of whether Iran would be willing to settle for less.

Mr. Muskie was a surprise participant in yesterday's meeting and was on hand again today for the meeting with Mr. Gheraieb. Mr. Rehdha Malek, Algeria's ambassador to the United States, and Mr. Seghir Mostefi, the chairman of Algeria's central bank.

It appeared likely that the current round of meetings would end before the Carter administration decides on an official response to Iran's conditions.

One official held out the possibility that the response would be formulated in a few days and then flown to Algiers by Deputy Secretary of State Warren Chris-



Above: Deputy U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, right, leaves a meeting on Saturday with Algerian intermediaries in the hostage dispute: Ambassador Redha Malek, left, and Seghir Mostefi, chairman of Algeria's central bank. Below: Bruce Laingen, U.S. charge d'affaires in Tehran when the embassy was seized, is shown Christmas Day at the Iranian Foreign Ministry. (AP wirephoto)

15-20 held hostage in Italian jail revolt

TRANI, Italy, Dec. 28 (R) — About 100 prisoners took between 15 and 20 warders hostage today at Trani jail, in southeast Italy, and demanded to speak to the local public prosecutor, a prison spokesman said.

He said the revolt had broken out in the maximum security section of the jail, where many convicted urban guerrillas are housed.

They refused to return to their cells after their afternoon exercise, seized the hostages, whose number is not yet certain, and occupied two wings of the jail. The convicts' only demand so far had been to speak with the prosecutor in the presence of lawyers and journalists, he said, adding that the prosecutor was now on his way to the jail.

Police and armed forces had surrounded Trani prison and cordoned off nearby roads, he said, though many units normally based nearby were still carrying out relief work in the earthquake-

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King receives Shak'a

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (JT) — His Majesty King Hussein today welcomed home the mayor of Nablus, Mr. Bassam Al Shak'a, and praised the determined spirit of resistance to occupation that characterises the struggle of the Arab population of the Israeli-occupied territories.

King Hussein was speaking upon receiving the mayor at the Royal Palace this morning. During the audience Mr. Shak'a expressed this heartfelt gratitude

and appreciation for the care accorded to him during his ordeal by the King and the Jordanian government. He lauded the national position of King Hussein in service of the Palestinian cause, and his support for the steadfastness of the Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories.

Also today, the Nablus mayor visited Al Hussein refugee camp in Amman, where he was given an enthusiastic reception by the camp's residents. Mr. Shak'a held a meeting with refugee leaders.

also attended by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Amman representative and Executive Committee member Abdul Jawad Saleh; deported Hebron qadi Sheikh Rajab Al Tamimi, and former minister of awqaf Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh.

Mr. Shak'a arrived here on Thursday after receiving treatment in London. He is expected to pay a visit to Damascus tomorrow before returning to his hometown in the occupied West Bank.



During his visit to Al Hussein refugee camp, Mr. Shak'a listens to an address by one of the local refugee leaders. The mayor is flanked by (from left to right): PLO Executive Committee member Abdul Jawad Saleh, Hebron qadi Sheikh Rajab Al Tamimi and former minister of awqaf Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh.



The Nablus mayor demonstrates the use of his artificial legs, which replace those blown off in a car-bomb attack in Nablus in June (Staff photos by Youssef Al 'Allan)



His Majesty King Hussein embraces wounded Nablus Mayor Bassam Al Shak'a upon receiving him at Basman Palace Sunday. (Photo by Zohrab)

Coming to grips

In an interview with the Beirut magazine Monday the late Majesty King Hussein was asked for his views on the current position of the "European initiative" for a Middle East peace settlement. "I can't tell you where the position is now," His Majesty replied. "I think it will be before too long we see some development in the line of Europe making a contribution in terms of ideas and ideas. I hope it will make a contribution by providing what the framework, the pillar of a just and lasting peace in the area should be."

Then, a report has appeared in a Belgian newspaper outlining the "options" which the European Commission is considering as it formulates and refines the European peace package. As published in the Jordanian press yesterday, the European considerations are comprehensive, dealing with all aspects of a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including the dismantling of Jewish settlements and the repatriation of the Palestinians to a state of their own in the liberated territory.

Such proposals may not—indeed, do not—satisfy all the demands for the recognition of the Palestinian people's sovereign right to return to their homeland without conditions, but, considering that the European powers no longer have a need to accommodate the practical requirements of the parties to the dispute in a way that is politically expedient, the "options" certainly come closer to the restoration of justice under a framework for peace and security than most other suggestions and proposals which we have seen over the last 13 years.

The effort should be made to coordinate with the European powers in the coming months to discern their thinking on an alternative framework for a settlement and to encourage them to adopt a stand that at least acknowledges—all the requirements of a comprehensive and durable settlement.

There have been many heartening developments towards this end, such as the British Liberal Party's statement following Mr. Steel's visit to the area, the principled and honourable stand taken by the Labour Party and the recent meeting between a senior Labour official and Mr. Yasser Arafat of the PLO.

One reason to suspect, however, that the European powers, having gone so far towards devising a settlement of their own, may have backed away somewhat from Mr. Ronald Reagan's victory in the American election. The reason for this is apparently that the Europeans want to wait and see what sort of policy Mr. Reagan and his team come up with.

It is, of course, unfortunate. It will take a long time for any American approach can sufficiently free itself from domestic political constraints, and from sterile clichés which tend to characterise the thinking on the Arab-Israeli conflict, to come to grips with the real dimensions of the problem in the way that the European options, at least as reported, have done.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

Under the patronage of Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh, the Jordanian Artists' Association presents its second annual exhibition of art works. The opening ceremony is at 4:30 p.m., at the Palace of Culture in Al Hussein Youth City. The exhibition will continue until Jan. 5.

The Department of Culture and Arts presents an exhibition of flower arrangement by Ibrahim Arar, at the Goethe Institute in Jabal Amman.

The Department of Culture and Arts, in cooperation with the Jordanian Artists' Association, presents an exhibition of paintings by Dina Zoubi. The show is open to the public at the association's exhibition hall in Jabal Luweibdeh, across the street from the French Cultural Centre.

The Jordan National Gallery presents an exhibition of paintings by Suhail Bisharat, at the gallery in Jabal Luweibdeh.

Reception

The Soviet Cultural Centre hosts a reception in honour of Russian language students. The party will take place in the centre, off the Third Circle in Jabal Amman, at 6 p.m.

1980 Chess tournament

The Royal Chess Club invites all chess players and those interested in chess to visit the club, to watch and take part in open games. Location: Fourth Circle, Jabal Amman, tel. 44713

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Ibrahim reviews strike with UNRWA official

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — The strike by teachers working for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) on the occupied West Bank was discussed today by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim and the director of UNRWA affairs in Jordan, Mr. John Tanner.

Mr. Ibrahim expressed the Jordanian government's concern about the teachers' case and their demands for better pay; and he requested that UNRWA should deal with the issue as quickly as possible. He also requested that the Jordanian view be passed on to UNRWA Commissioner General Olef Rydbeck, and be given particular attention.

After the meeting, the Minister received a delegation representing the striking UNRWA employees, and briefed them on the meeting with Mr. Tanner.

Iraqi assembly calls for return of deportees

BEIRUT, Dec. 28 (R) — The Iraqi National Assembly (parliament) today voiced support for international efforts to ensure the repatriation of two mayors from the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

The official Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Speaker Naim Haddad sent a message to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim expressing appreciation for a Security Council resolution urging Israel to allow Mayors Fahd Qawasmi of Hebron and Mohammad Milhem of Halhoul to return to their homes.

The two mayors were expelled from the West Bank in May after being accused of inciting violence.

They began a hunger strike at the U.N. headquarters in New York on Dec. 19 but agreed on Dec. 24 to leave the building at Mr. Waldheim's request.

In his message, Mr. Haddad said the expulsions again revealed Israel's "persistence in violating U.N. principles and charters."

U. of Jordan to set up planning committee

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — A higher committee for planning and coordination is to be set up at the University of Jordan, according to an announcement made today by the university's president, Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali.

He said that the committee will be charged with drawing up a comprehensive plan for the university, and its annual development schemes; and will conduct an assessment of the progress of each project.

The committee will make recommendations to the board of trustees about university grants and foreign aid granted to the university, and will make a study of the university's draft development budget before it is submitted to the concerned authorities.

According to the announcement, the committee will set up a permanent bureau for operations, planning and coordination which will, among other things, determine the needs of the various faculties for manpower, scientific equipment, and installations, after reviewing the different faculties' requests.

The bureau will also be charged with drawing up a long-term plan for the university and suggesting

means of funding it will make a study agreements with other and supervise schools

Home investment committee first meeting

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — A special committee for attracting Jordanian experts and business from abroad first meeting in Amman today under the chairmanship of Minister of Public Works Masri.

The committee means of attracting Jordanians working in Jordanian universities and encouraging them to launch projects within the country.

It comprises representatives of the Ministry of Trade, the Central National Planning Federation of Jordan, the Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Industries and the contractors.

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مكتبة الأصيل

Qasem back from meeting of Jerusalem Committee

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — The Jordanian delegation was instructed in drafting the recommendations of the Islamic Conference's Jerusalem Committee meeting in Rabat, which included comprehensive strategy for joint action against the Zionist my, according to Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

Mr. Qasem was speaking here upon returning from Rabat, where he led Jordan's delegation to the meeting, Jordan, he said, submitted a well-documented memorandum to the committee regarding Israel's illegal practices in occupied Arab territories, with recommendations for action by Muslim nations.

He added that the Jordanian recommendations, which laid the work for the work of a team that comprised representatives of Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Syria, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Eritrea and Guinea.

After working papers presented to the Rabat meeting and mostly on the Islamic commitment to liberate occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the position of the Palestine problem as

the prime issue for Islamic nations, the minister said. These papers, he added, called on Islamic nations to employ their political, economic and military capabilities to find a just solution to the Palestine problem and to endorse the call for a holy war to liberate Jerusalem.

Furthermore, the working papers denounced the Camp David agreements and any political solution which ignores the rights of the Palestinian people. They pledged support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, regarding it as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and pledged support for the Jerusalem fund, Mr. Qasem said.

He added that the working papers also called on the United States to reconsider its position on the Palestinian people's problem, and appealed to foreign nations not to recognise Israel's annexation of Jerusalem or have any dealings with Israel concerning Jerusalem.

He said the committee's recommendations will be referred to an Islamic foreign ministers meeting in Saudi Arabia next month before their submission to the forthcoming Islamic summit.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran reviews activities of the trustees of the Arab Unity Research Centre with Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'doun Hammadi (centre) and his colleagues.

Badran, Hammadi review research centre's activities

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (JT) — The work and activities of the trustees of the Arab Unity Research Centre were reviewed here today by Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'doun Hammadi, who chaired the trustees' meeting which started in Amman last night.

At the meeting, which was held at the prime minister's office and attended by several of Dr. Hammadi's colleagues, Mr. Badran expressed delight that the meeting was being held in Amman, and wished the trustees success.

Dr. Hammadi and his colleagues presented the prime minister with a collection of books and publications published by the research centre, including *Al Mustaqbal Al Arabi* magazine.

The centre, founded in the wake of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, sponsors studies by leading Arab intellectuals of varying political persuasions on means of achieving Arab unity.

Mufti back from Tunis meet

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — Minister of Social Development In'am Al Mufti returned to Amman from Tunis this evening after heading the Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the Executive Bureau for, and the first session of, the Arab social affairs ministers' conference which began its meetings in Tunis on Dec. 22.

Mrs. Mufti said the conference, which concluded its meetings yesterday, adopted several resolutions and recommendations, the most important of which was approval of the establishment of an Arab Social Development Fund with a capital of \$1 million to finance social projects in Arab countries.

Mrs. Mufti said the conference decided to allocate part of the fund's money to support social institutions in occupied Palestine. She added that the conference also approved the establishment of an Arab institute to prepare specialised technical staff in the care, education and training of the retarded.

Mrs. Mufti said the conference also discussed the social consequences of the movement of Arab manpower to foreign countries, as well as the movement of Arab and foreign manpower within Arab countries; with the aim of drawing up a strategy for the 1980s. The conference also approved a working plan to improve the conditions of Arab women, and to develop social training programmes and the necessary manpower to implement a strategy for Arab social action, she said.

Capturing Jordanian traditions with notebook and tape recorder

By Dina Matar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Dec. 28 — "Seeing Jordan as it is now, you might not be able to visualise how the people and the land used to be hundreds of years ago... what customs bound them together, and how they lived. You might feel inclined to stop someone in the street and ask: but no one of the younger generation remembers. Yet for some, a verse from a poem, or a melody, can evoke long-dormant memories of a past vivid with life." Thus says one person involved in the effort to bring Jordan's past to life.

To revive the past and accumulate records of Jordan's customs, traditions and folklore are the basic aims of a team of researchers from the Department of Culture and Arts. For the past two years, the team have been travelling around the country, meeting with old people and recording songs, legends and traditions, as well as collecting antique articles that used to be used in such tasks as cooking and farming.

"This comprehensive survey is important, since it is compiling a large part of the national Jordanian heritage," Mr. Mohannu Durra, director of the Department of Culture and Arts, told the Jordan Times. He noted that many antiquities are now lost to the Jordanian people, "because nobody really cared to preserve them." The department is trying to implement a law to prevent the loss or theft of these valuable articles, Mr. Durra said.

"Our heritage is being stolen



Old people of the desert: Will their memories die with them?

right under our noses," he noted. "As a matter of fact, Israel is now using the national Palestinian dress as a costume for its El Al hostesses, claiming that it is part of its own folklore."

The team has been collecting articles from households in various regions of the country. These range from household items such as pots and mirrors to swords and daggers, 100 years old or more. "At the moment, we are planning to collect everything," Mr. Durra said, "and we hope to put them in a museum in the future."

Old people have been asked to recount stories they remember from the old days. From these, Mr. Durra said, "we plan to produce plays in which our history will be retold."

Next year will mark the high point of the department's project;

during it, most areas in Jordan will be surveyed. So far, the team has covered some areas in the south as well as the Azraq area, where a group of Druze are living.

"It is wonderful to learn about these people's traditions," Mr. Durra said, "since they have maintained their identity and customs."

The survey also entails the video-taping of the songs and poems which accompany weddings, deaths, and circumcisions. Here, the team seeks the help of police stations to get information on the occasions in various regions.

One very interesting recording is that of the recollections of an old bedouin from the south, who surprisingly spoke fluent German and had an Iron Cross medal of the Third Reich. This man recalls the wartime cafes in Berlin, and some German songs. "He had been a Nazi major, and decided to return to his homeland in the desert after the war," Mr. Durra said.

An emphasis on the people, their feelings and aspirations is the most vital aspect of the survey. The stories, songs or poems are recorded in their crude, unpolished form—but as the legends flow from the mouths of old men and women, the listener is transported into a different age.

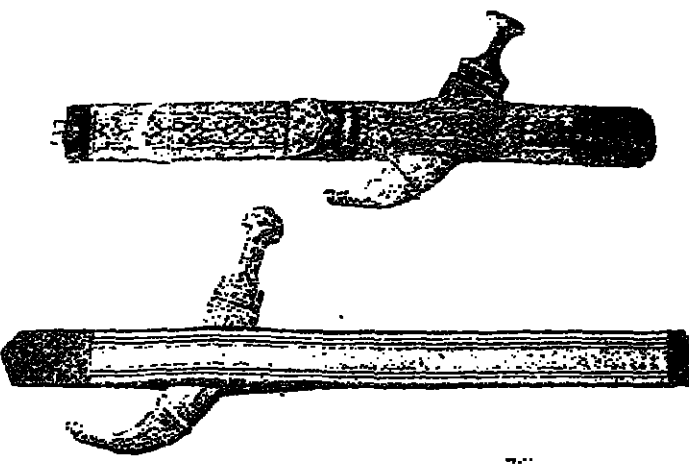
One of the legends recorded is that of the ghoul or ogre which would terrorise the populace, appearing in the form of a beautiful woman who lured men into a mountain cave, never to be seen

again. "It is interesting to note that this legend is somewhat similar to the Scandinavian ogre legends," Mr. Durra said.

Wedding and betrothal customs are also part of the research project, as are superstitions, folk medicine and other aspects of the traditional life. Taken together, they comprise a massive collection to enrich Jordan's cultural heritage.

"At the moment we are in the process of accumulating information," Mr. Durra said. "Later on, we will organise a comparative study on the differences among different regions of Jordan."

The team has now recorded about 900 cassettes and about 800 articles have been transcribed and classified at the department. "Although the survey has been going forward, the work is not easy," Mr. Durra said. "We lack the female element. We need more girls to help us with the survey, since they have more access to the Jordanian household," he added.



Jordan's traditional art ranges from daggers...



...to domesticity.

Local News Briefs

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — The cabinet today formed Jordan's delegation to an Arab League meeting called in Tunis to introduce amendments to the Arab League Charter. The delegation to the 15 meeting will be led by the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, Mr. Amer Shammout.

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim conferred here today with the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's Executive Committee in Jordan, Mr. Abdul Razzaq Al Yahya. They discussed a number of issues of mutual concern to Jordan and the PLO.

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — His Highness Prince Mohammad today called at the Public Security Directorate to inspect its various sections, and was briefed on their activities. The prince later called at the Ministry of Tourism and was briefed on its achievements and a tourist information programme which is aimed at attracting tourists to Jordan.

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — Development Bank for Municipalities and Village Councils today approved a JD 9,000 loan to the village council of Dima in Yarak Governorate. The council will use the loan to finance the construction of an annex to the village school.

Home to committee first match AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — A sports delegation from the University of Jordan left for the United Arab Emirates (UAE) today for a visit to last several days. The delegation, comprising basketball, volleyball and table tennis teams, will play friendly matches against teams from the UAE university, situated in the city of Ajman. Sports teams from the UAE university paid a visit to Jordan recently and played several matches with teams from the University of Jordan.

AMMAN, Dec. 28 (Petra) — The military governor today endorsed sentences passed by the military court on eight Jordanian merchants for violating Ministry of Supply regulations. They will each pay fines ranging between JD 50 and JD 100.

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A qualified and experienced salesman. Experience in selling lifts is preferable, but not essential. Your selling experience could be in similar fields such as construction materials, air conditioning, machinery, etc. Fluency in Arabic essential, with a working knowledge of spoken and written English.

An attractive salary, plus incentive payment, will be given to the selected candidate.

Jordanian national will be given preference. Please apply in writing, giving your particulars, details of experience, your address and telephone number in Amman to:

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Range Rover, 1978 Sahara Dust. Excellent condition. 30,000 km. only.
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JD 4,600; duty not paid

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INVITATION TO TENDER

We are pleased to invite participation in the tender for Electro-Mechanical works at the AQABA NEW HOUSING PROJECT as detailed in the tender documents available at our head office in Amman.

Firms interested in participating in this tender can obtain the documents as from Saturday Jan. 3, 1981 from:

ICICO

University Road, Behind Al-Rai Newspaper Bldg.
P.O. Box 19170
Telephone: 66133/66134
Telex: 21977 ICICO JO
C/o Construction Dept. E/M Division for a non-refundable fee JD 50 a set.

Completed tenders must be submitted to the above-mentioned office not later than 12 noon on Jan. 20, 1981, accompanied with a bid bond of 5 per cent of the tender value, issued by a Jordanian bank. Tendering firms are requested to submit pre-qualification documents along with their bid.

The owner is under no obligation to award the contract to the lowest bidder.

Fakhri Abu Shakra

German Food all over the world.

A wide range of German Food and Drink will be on display in Amman in the following supermarkets:

Khalaf stores
Rainbow market
Sweet supermarket
Barq supermarket
Babel supermarket
Akkawi supermarket
Picadilly supermarket
Al-Waddan Supermarket
Nasreddin supermarket
HannaSalameh supermket
Jordan supermarket
Abdoun Supermarket
IFCO supermarket
Safeway supermarket
Jebel Taj supermarket
Rex supermarket
GreenValley supermarket
Sunrise supermarket
Sukaina supermarket
Lina supermarket

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JORDAN TIMES Middle East Monitor

Prince Sultan asserts

Saudis now operate AWACS

YUWAIT: Saudi Arabia's defence minister, Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz, says Saudi technicians are operating the four U.S. airborne warning and control system (AWACS) planes positioned in the world's largest oil exporting country to monitor the Iran-Iraq war.

The prince also told the independent Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Siyasah* in an interview published Sunday that the Saudi government intends to acquire more AWACS planes in the future and that additional Saudi technicians were being trained to operate the extra aircraft.

The United States dispatched the four AWACS in the early days of the 14-week-old war on the northern flank of the Gulf at the request of the Saudi government. The move was then described as part of efforts to prevent the war from spilling over to other Gulf oil producing countries.

"The kingdom had asked for the AWACS long before the present war broke out," Prince Sultan was quoted as saying. "They became more necessary to acquire when the war erupted."

Prince Sultan said the four AWACS now in Saudi Arabia were "on loan" but that Saudi Arabia which supplies 20 per cent of the U.S. oil imports plans to acquire many of them.

Prince Sultan said the presence of American military experts in Saudi Arabia was of a "technical" nature. "It is part of the technical presence here of a number of states, from which we import arms," he added.

"With imported weapons we need technical know-how to train our cadres," the prince said, stress-



Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz

ing that AWACS planes were "important to us and to our Arab brethren in the Gulf."

"Thank God, we are not tied up by treaties or pacts with foreign powers as is the case with others," Prince Sultan said. "We select the parties with which to cooperate when the need arises and ask them

to leave at the time we want."

The "others" in his statement appeared to be the leftist Arab states that are bound by treaties of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union, like Syria and South Yemen.

He said Saudi Arabia intended to keep itself free from any ties with any superpower.

"We have the conviction the superpowers pay no attention to the interests of smaller countries and are not interested in ideals or ethics. They only care for their own interests," Prince Sultan added.

He expressed Saudi Arabia's hope that the Iran-Iraq war would end soon.

"Nobody stands to benefit from this war," he said. "Its dangers exist in the form of possible superpower intervention."

Prince Sultan said Gulf states were capable of defending themselves and that they were not exposed to "deliberate threats" as a result of the Iran-Iraq war. (AP)

Polisario claims successes

ALGERIA: Fierce fighting has raged on the border of the Western Sahara and Morocco for the past few days, Western Saharan guerrillas said today.

The Polisario guerrillas claimed in a communique that they shot down two Moroccan fighter planes, including a Mirage F-1 -- the ninth they claim to have destroyed this year. They said the pilot of the second plane, a U.S.-built F-5, was captured.

The battle began last Wednesday when the guerrillas attacked a large Moroccan force at Rous Lekhyalat, south of the Moroccan town of Tan Tan, the Polisario claimed. Many Moroccan troops were "knocked out" in fighting over an area where both sides have reported heavy clashes since mid-September. In Rabat, the Moroccan News Agency reported Saturday dozens of guerrillas killed or wounded in heavy fighting around Smara, the Western Sahara's second biggest town, last Wednesday. (R)

Regional Briefs

CAIRO: Egypt closed its airspace to all planes from the Algerian national airline Air Algérie, the semi-official daily *Al-Ahram* said Sunday. The move extends an earlier order closing Egyptian airports to all Air Algérie planes. Algeria triggered the series of bans by closing its airports to planes from Egypt's national carrier Egyptair, in response to the establishment of diplomatic links between Egypt and Israel. (Agencies)

BAHRAIN: Iraq has imposed visa formalities with a number of Arab countries, including Bahrain, apparently to better control travellers to the country, official sources said Sunday. The Bahrain foreign ministry said Saturday Bahraini citizens needed entry visas to visit Iraq, thus reversing free travel between the two countries. The sources declined to name the other Arab states covered by the Iraqi measure, which they said was introduced earlier this month. (R)

AN'ARA: Thirty-thousand political extremists have been detained in Turkey since the military coup last Sept. 12, according to military authorities here. An official statement by the committee of the martial law services, said 215 people had died in violent incidents since the military takeover. They included 27 members of the police force or martial law troops, killed in clashes with extremists. Before the coup, political feuds between right and left wing factions were costing about 22 lives a day. The announcement also referred to nearly 3,000 incidents of a political nature since the coup, ranging from armed attacks and clashes with security forces to distribution of political pamphlets, banned under martial law. (R)

NICOSIA: Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou will visit Athens on Jan. 11 for consultations with the Greek government about the progress of the island's intercommunal talks. The talks between leaders of the Turkish and Greek communities in Cyprus are due to resume next month. President Kyprianou will be accompanied to Athens by Foreign Minister Nicos Rolandis and Greek-Cypriot negotiator George Ioannides. (R)

BEIRUT: An Iranian cargo ship saved the life of an American who was picked up in the Indian Ocean "half-alive" after he had been swimming for ten hours, according to the Iranian news agency. Pars, the American, who identified himself to the crew as O.F. Wilson, was found on the morning of Dec. 18 and picked up by the vessel *Iran Fardul* which Pars said belonged to Iran's shipping organisation. The ship was on its way from the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas, at the southern end of the Gulf, to the Far East. Pars said. The vessel requested permission to change course and returned to dock at an "Indian port" where Mr. Wilson was handed over to the Indian authorities for treatment. Pars said the vessel's crew administered first aid treatment before docking. Pars did not say if Mr. Wilson had been on a ship before falling into the ocean. (AP)

Chadians face 'obstacles' to return to normal life

By Susan Livnee

N'DJAMENA: Gaya, Ahmad and Alphonse wear the motley garb of irregular fighters in a civil war in which a strip of fabric often tells the difference between friend and foe. The blue scraps of cloth knitted through their jacket flaps indicate they were on the winning side.

If the peace that marks the latest lull in the 15 year civil war holds, the three young fighters and their 4.2 million countrymen face enormous obstacles in their attempt to return to what one refugee vaguely remembers as "normal life" in this beautiful but impoverished Central African country.

President Goukouni Oueddei said last week, that the civil war was over and the forces of former defence minister Hissene Habre no longer existed. Col. Habre was driven out of the capital on Dec. 15 by a combined force of Mr. Goukouni's supporters, elements of the Chad national army and an undetermined number of Libyans.

Gaya, 30, abandoned a political science scholarship in France to return to Chad in 1975 to join northern Muslim rebels led by Mr. Goukouni and opposed to south-

ern domination of the country. The five years of guerrilla combat and multiple inter-ethnic rivalries have made him wary of cease-fires.

For him the country's biggest problem is the lack of educated people. "You've got to understand that 85 per cent of Chadians are illiterate. They're suspicious of outsiders and they've been living in chaos for most of the 20 years since independence from France," he said.

When he is certain the peace will last, Gaya says he will try for another scholarship -- perhaps in France again or maybe in the Soviet Union. In the meantime he uses his experience and esteem among fellow warriors to help restore a semblance of order to the small capital.

Despite being divided between the rival forces since March, there is far less damage than might be imagined. Much of the capital was abandoned rather than destroyed, though the European and government sections have been thoroughly pillaged.

Ahmad, 33, a native of the capital, who has fought "everywhere but in the south," serves as a part-time immigration officer in a straw lean-to at the landing where a make-shift ferry crosses the Chari

river between N'Djamena and Kousséri, Cameroon. Other times he keeps guard with a well-worn Kalashnikov rifle, heret pulled low, watching hundreds of dugout canoes ferrying Chadians back and forth between refugee camps and their looted homes.

"Everyone tells you now that they were supporters of FAP" (Goukouni's Forces Armées Populaires), he says. "But I know who was with Habre. Any way a lot of his guys came over to our side in the end."

When a Libyan in uniform roared by on a motor bike, Ahmad muttered something in French about being "colonised again." Then he switched to the local version of Arabic and went over to chat with the Libyan.

French and U.S. military intelligence have reported some 2,000 to 4,000 Libyan troops in or around N'Djamena during the final battle. Although the government acknowledges Libyan "material and technical aid," it will not allow reporters access to the airport where many of the Libyans are said to be based.

Alphonse, a 23-year-old southerner, misses the fighting. "War is good. It makes men feel like warriors. In peace it's harder to feel strong."

Mr. Goukouni acknowledged that one of his main priorities was to disarm the irregulars and to impose a strong military police.

Résonnement against south- erners, mostly Christian and greatly favoured during the French colonial period, was the original cause of fighting in Chad.

Ethnic slurs and animosities are still common, but Alphonse says he feels comfortable with his northern comrades. "When you've been warriors together, even with those wild-looking guys from the BET (the Northern desert bordering Libya), you forget the rest."

The government has declared restoration of every aspect of the shattered economy and administration to be top priority and is open to all offers of aid, even

though it has been highly critical of what it regards as open French support of Col. Habre.

In Paris, French officials strongly deny they gave any aid to Col. Habre. They recalled his own long rebellion in the north against the French-backed central government, his kidnap of a French woman, ransomed by Paris, and his murder of a French army officer who volunteered to try to negotiate a peace settlement.

Mr. Goukouni said he hoped soon to be able to invite diplomats back to open their embassies, which all, with government offices, have been thoroughly sacked and looted. (AP)



During the 15-year civil war, thousands of Chadians left N'Djamena, leaving the capital to the feuding parties.

Cubans reported fighting rebels alongside Soviets in Afghanistan

By James W. Hatton

NEW DELHI: Cuban soldiers have been fighting alongside Soviet troops in Afghanistan against the rebels who oppose the Marxist regime in Kabul, according to a report from the Afghan capital.

The report, from a source who has been accurate in the past, could not be independently confirmed. It added, however, that the Muslim insurgents had brought the heads of some slain Cuban soldiers to Kabul as proof of their claim. Numerous unconfirmed reports filtering out of the landlocked Asian country -- from which western reporters are barred -- have claimed in recent months that Cuban, Vietnamese and East European troops were in Afghanistan. The Afghan government of President Babrak Karmal has denied the claims.

According to the latest report, an estimated 1,000 Cuban troops were at the Bagram and Shindand airports outside the capital, and a "large number" recently fought along with Soviet troops against the rebels who control the strategic Panjshir Valley north of Kabul.

The Soviet have made repeated attempts in recent months to dislodge the rebels from the gorge, which controls the routes to the northeast frontier. All have been halted about 40 kilometres into the valley at Rokha, where the rebels control the high ground.

Fighting in the Panjshir in the last few days has claimed many casualties, including a group of 400 Soviet and Cuban soldiers who were surrounded and killed by the rebels, the report from Kabul said.

It was in this latest fighting, the source said, that the rebels decapitated several dead Cuban soldiers and took the heads to Kabul to show to resistance groups in the capital.

However, Radio Afghanistan, the official voice of the government, said Tuesday in a broadcast heard in New Delhi that "western media propaganda" was spreading "the lies... that Cuban soldiers are fighting in Afghanistan."

The broadcast quoted Defence Minister Mohammad Rafi as saying that "with the exception of the limited contingent of the Soviet Union... there is no single soldier of any nationality or other foreign country" in Afghanistan.

The Kabul source said Mr. Rafi remained in hospital. That report tallied with one earlier in the week by a western diplomat, although the Kabul report said it was for nerves while the diplomat said Mr. Rafi was hospitalised last weekend for a tonsilectomy.

In another development, Soviet engineers have begun pumping crude oil back to their homeland from wells near Sheberghan in north Afghanistan, the Kabul source said.

The Russians reportedly have been sending natural gas from Sheberghan to the Soviet Union for several months, and allegedly paying the Afghan government a below-market price for the fuel.

The reports said it was not known how much gas was siphoned off through a huge pipeline to the Soviet Union because all the gauges and monitoring equipment are on the Soviet side of the border. (AP)

Two die, hundreds stranded in heavy Naqab Desert rain

TEL AVIV: Two persons were dead and hundreds more were stranded Saturday after heavy rains turned normally dry riverbeds in the Naqab desert into swirling torrents of water.

A 2-year-old Israeli child drowned when she was swept out of her father's truck after their truck overturned in flooded Nahal Zin, about 25 kilometres southwest of the Dead Sea. The child's father ignored police warnings and drove his vehicle around a road block into the riverbed, the state radio reported.

A 22-year-old French woman drowned late Friday when a car in which she was travelling was swept off the Ein Gedi-Massada road near the Dead Sea's western shore.

The woman's parents, who were in the car by an army truck driver, request identity not be released until their France could be notified.

Army helicopters evacuated about 300 people who were stranded by flash floods in the Araba region between the Dead Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba, Israeli Radio reported. Evacuees were flown north to waiting buses that took them to Dimona and Beersheba. Major roads were still officially closed.

Eilat, Israel's southern port, was in record 24 millimetres of rain that was road leading to the town. (AP)

Kuwait's new envoy calls Washington to recognise I

KUWAIT: Kuwait's new ambassador to the United States called on Washington Sunday to recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the representative of the Palestinian people.

"Washington's refusal to talk to the PLO will only lead to escalating Middle East tension," Sheikh Saud Nasser Al Sabah told a news conference here.

He was named to the Washington post two weeks ago after a six-year span as ambassador to Britain. He plans to leave to the

United States within the next few days.

The United States, he said, would not be able to find a substitute for the PLO, which he said, "is already recognised by almost all countries of the world as the sole representative of the Palestinian people."

"It is high time for the United States to make some concessions and abandon its present attitude," Sheikh Saud said.

The diplomat said it was difficult to forecast the Middle East policy of incoming U.S. President

Ronald Reagan. By Arab governments, time in seeking a side of the case to Reagan administration.

He said Mr. Reagan's America's forthcoming state might herald on the Middle East, western Europe.

The Arab states consider Europe more on the Middle East, the pro-Israel United

Gen. Jones hails U.S.-Egypt exercises

CAIRO: The chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Saturday described joint Egyptian-American military exercises here as "extremely successful," and invited Egyptian troops to participate in similar manoeuvres in the United States.

Gen. David Jones said he hoped such joint exercises would continue, "for the benefit of both nations."

"Right now there are exercises taking place in the Nevada desert, called Operation Red Flag. We would welcome Egyptian participation in these manoeuvres."

Gen. Jones is quoted as saying in remarks carried by the official Middle East News Agency.

The agency said Gen. Jones spoke briefly to reporters after being awarded the Medal of the Nile at a ceremony at the armed forces general headquarters on the outskirts of Cairo. The medal was awarded by President Anwar Sadat and given to Gen. Jones by military chief of staff Gen. Muhammad Abu Ghazala.

Gen. Jones, on his second visit to Egypt in two months, was referring to two instances of joint military manoeuvres between Egy-

ptian and American

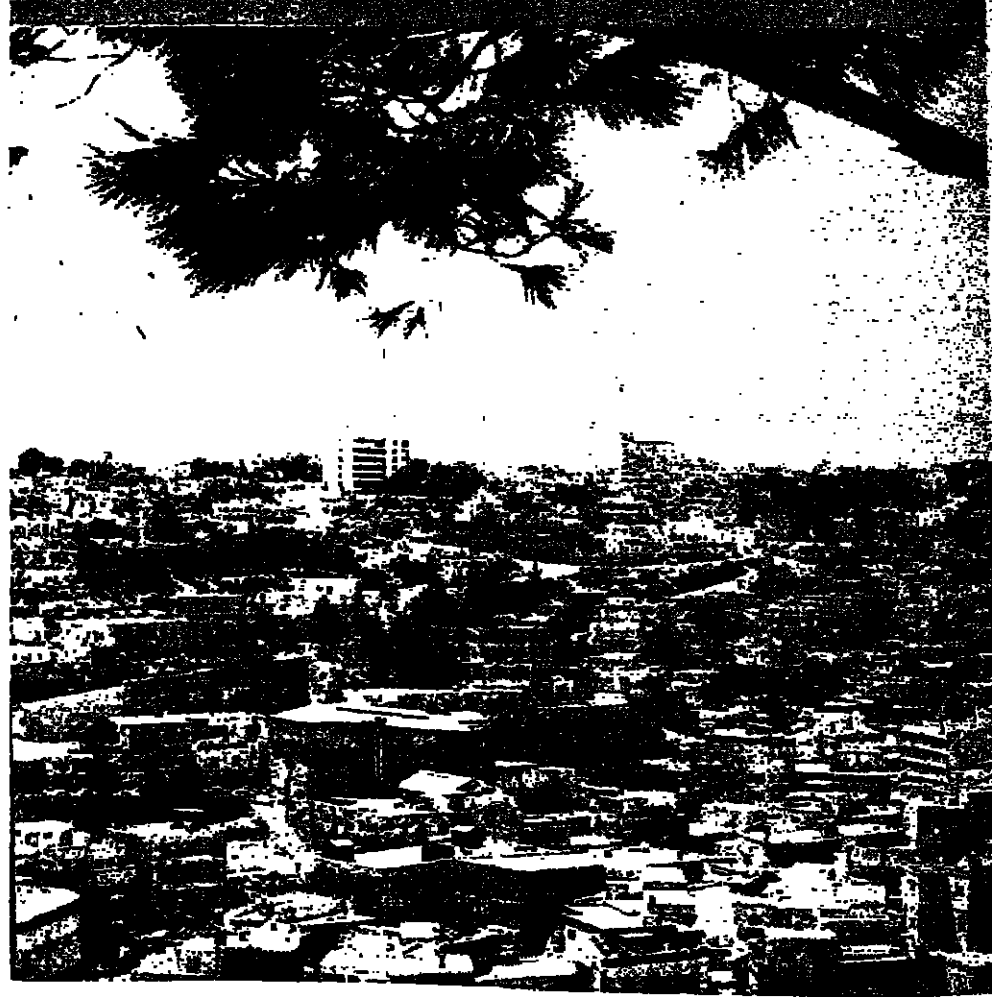
year. A squadron of Ph fighter jets spent the Egyptian desert, pman air force deserv October.

In November troops, the heral Deployment Force, weeks in desert war the Egyptian army.

The agency said Gen. Jones will discuss "military between the two countries."

Good morning, Amman!

Eight pages of news in the Jordan Times



Armbands and cloth scraps identify the parties in the Chadian civil war. This soldier's armband indicates he is with Mr. Goukouni's Forces Armées Populaires (FAP).

American has another woman's child

I am a surrogate mother

strand
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gnise

pt ex

With a touch of nerves, the smile is frequent and dazzling. With her discreet twin-set and tweed skirt, and neat, brushed-hair, Elizabeth Kane is the typical American housewife.

ms of women exactly like her are seen at supermarkets, socials, charity sales and all across the country.

38-year-old Mrs. Kane, a name used at all public events, is no ordinary wife.

ed by neighbours, her children jeered at, catalyst of less debates, lectures and tions, she is for the moment a notorious woman in a.

Though expected, the all bewilders her, since it is by what she considers the usual, fulfilling thing in the having a baby.

point is that Elizabeth Kane, middle-class, middle-aged, is a surrogate mother.

Artificially inseminated—she has given the couple 10oz. baby boy.

gave motherhood isn't in the United States, but she makes the nation pon-

human and moral imply-

ing "coming out of the and talking about her part

is writing a book on the need—for propaganda and apy, not to make money,

ses.

Elizabeth whether she through it again and the is prompt. "I sure would...

no regrets." Then, mod-

bat, she adds: "Well, if I years younger I would do in a few years, but at my

uth, probably, is that she face a second ordeal of another woman's child.

amily has lived in the small

town of Pekin, Illinois, for a long time and there her identity—after a single unmasked TV appearance as "Mrs Kane"—is an open secret.

Suddenly her four-year-old son can't find anyone to play with him. He is "that woman's boy," and friends are shooed indoors when he calls. Elizabeth's daughters, 11 and 13, have an even harder time.

Their school buzzes with rumours and they've been taunted in the playground as "Baby-seller's kids," because their mother got a nominal fee to cover pre-natal expenses.

As for husband David, a tall, balding, bespectacled businessman, he couldn't believe her when she broached the project. "He was shocked when I told him I wanted to bear another man's child. He forbade it, and there were rows. But we've got a long, solid relationship and David is an understanding person—he could grasp the sadness of other married people desperately wanting a baby."

Her pregnancy was arranged through a Louisville, Kentucky group called Surrogate Parenting Associates, and its director, Dr. Richard Levin, claims to be looking after 100 more women.

Ms. Kane Brophy, attorney for Surrogate Parenting, said the group had no model to go by in making up a contract between the parents and the surrogate mother.

She said she researched about two months before drawing up the document. According to Ms. Brophy, the child will have to be legally adopted by the biological father's wife.

Asked how much contact the surrogate would want to have with the child while it grows up, Ms. Brophy said: "I don't really think she wants any further contact with

the child, other than knowing it's healthy and happy."

As for money, Ms. Brophy said: "We ask the women to just tell us what (amount) they're interested in," and that most of the surrogate fees range from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

"I asked his mother's permission before taking the baby in my arms," Elizabeth recalls, "and again before unwrapping the blanket to examine him—that's how strongly I felt it was their baby."

"I was detached for the first two days, but by the third he was looking very cute to me. That's when I said goodbye, mentally and physically, and my tears came, too."

Mrs. Kane, insurance executive David and their relatives hope that the future will die once surrogate motherhood becomes accepted. Elizabeth, driven by compassion for women who couldn't have babies, and a nagging compulsion to help in a supremely practical way, believes that eventually she will be remembered—if at all—as a pioneer.

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ple. During the pregnancy the natural father must buy insurance policies to provide for the surrogate mother's family should she die during pregnancy and for the baby should the natural father die.

Ms. Brophy said the service has heard from interested parties in 30 states, as well as Canada, Mexico, France and Italy.

Ms. Brophy will not divulge the number of women who have been inseminated.

She said she felt that surrogate parenting was a safer, less expensive method for childless couples to have a child than adopting babies on an illegal "black market."

"With us you do know what you're getting," Ms. Brophy said.

As for Elizabeth Kane, while admitting a moment's doubt—"during labour there was a flash when I decided I must be crazy"—being shunned by her home town, where only a single neighbour still talks to her, hasn't changed her outlook.

Ms. Brophy said that during the initial consultation between the prospective parents and Surrogate Parenting Associates she and her colleagues point out all the things that could go wrong: the surrogate mother could change her mind, the child might not be born healthy, the contracts they sign have never been tested as a legal precedent and, according to Ms. Brophy, "There are some arguments to be made that it may be against public policy."

The three-hour consultation, she said, tells clients "how we got started, and what kind of examinations we put those women through."

Those include a fertility examination, psychiatric and psychological testing, a check of medical records on the surrogate's children to make sure they are healthy. Some couples, Ms. Brophy said, may request extra tests on the surrogate mothers, such as an intelligence test.

The information about the surrogates is stored in a computer so that the firm and the parents can find women who would be an appropriate surrogate for the couple.

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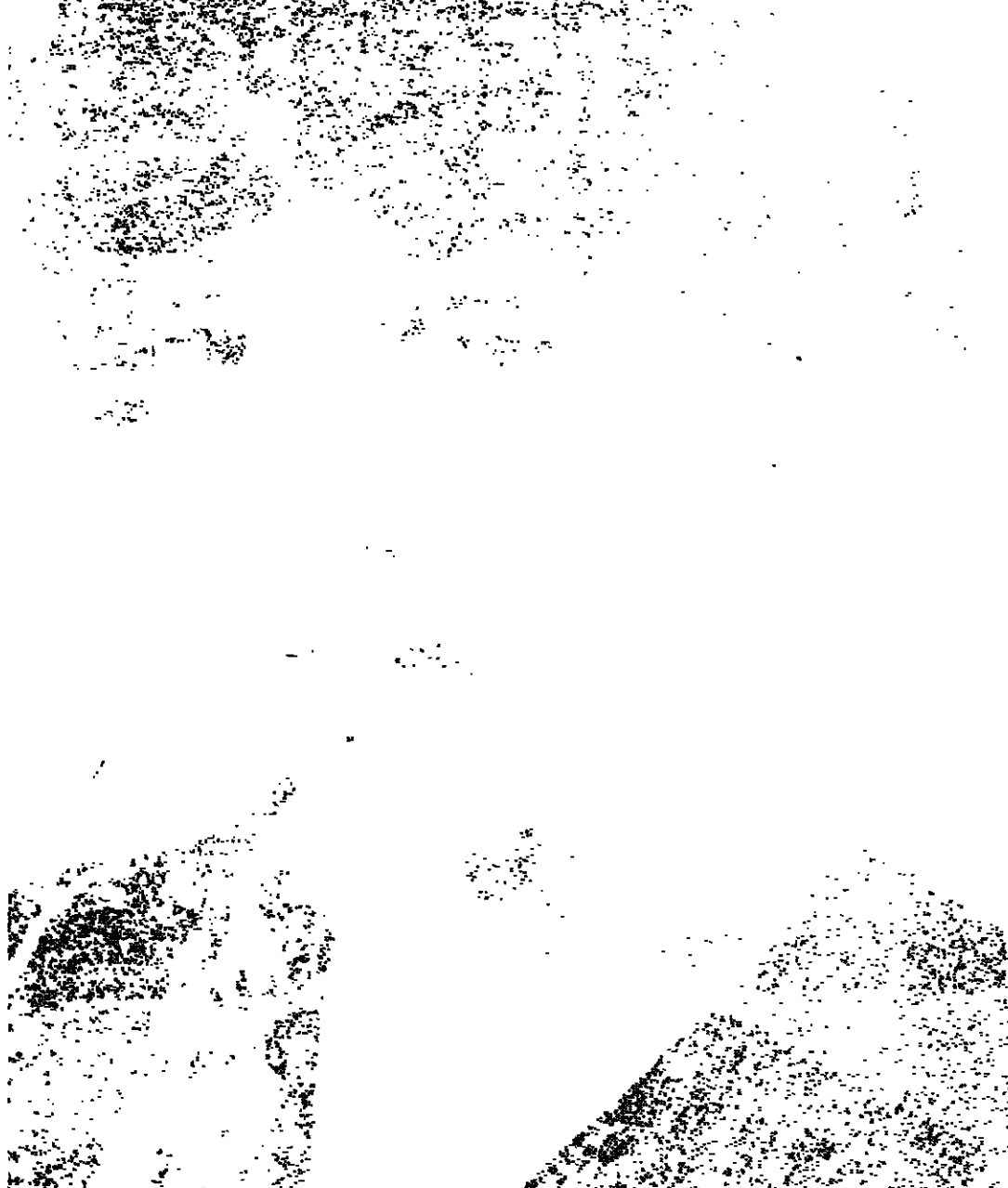
Ms. Brophy said that during the initial consultation between the prospective parents and Surrogate Parenting Associates she and her colleagues point out all the things that could go wrong: the surrogate mother could change her mind, the child might not be born healthy, the contracts they sign have never been tested as a legal precedent and, according to Ms. Brophy, "There are some arguments to be made that it may be against public policy."

The three-hour consultation, she said, tells clients "how we got started, and what kind of examinations we put those women through."

Those include a fertility examination, psychiatric and psychological testing, a check of medical records on the surrogate's children to make sure they are healthy. Some couples, Ms. Brophy said, may request extra tests on the surrogate mothers, such as an intelligence test.

The information about the surrogates is stored in a computer so that the firm and the parents can find women who would be an appropriate surrogate for the couple.

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"The joyful expression on that couple's faces when they stood beside me holding the baby they thought they could never have, more than makes up for everything that has followed."

-- From the Daily Mail, London, and Associated Press



Claims

Mr. Kane is still taciturn, mumbling that he feels his wife did a good deed, while obviously remaining embarrassed over it.

The father and the baby's adop-

The International Year of Disabled Persons: 1981

LD-WIDE, one child in every ten is physically or mentally disabled. That message, from Rehabilitation International's secretary General Norman Acton, will be heard around the world in the next twelve months—the International Year of Disabled Persons. To find out what the year is all about, and what it hopes to do, Peter Adamson talked to Norman Acton at his headquarters in New York.

ld of about two years lies in a room somewhere in Asia. A shaft of light falls across her face

as the bamboo door of the room swings open. But she neither speaks nor moves her head as the stranger approaches. Her body remains inert, her eyes expressionless, as he stoops over her.

The stranger is Mr. Norman Acton, head of Rehabilitation International. He is in the village

to research a report for UNICEF on the plight of disabled children in the developing world.

As the story of the child in the hammock unfolds, Mr. Acton learns that she had suffered from a fever shortly after birth. Her parents were advised that there was nothing to be done except to iso-

late the child, breaking into her world only to feed her.

The fever passed. But for almost two more years, the child lay undisturbed in the gloom.

"Originally, that child almost certainly did not have a disability," says Mr. Acton, speaking now in his seventh-floor office, above but not beyond the noise of the traffic on New York's Park Avenue South, "but today she is truly disabled—mentally and physically. The normal processes of child development simply have not happened."

Disabling attitudes

As the head of an agency with 115 member organisations serving the disabled in 65 countries, the 61-year-old Mr. Acton is getting ready for a busy new year—a year for which the little girl in the darkened room has become a personal symbol.

"Her story is an extreme example," he explains, "but it shows that attitudes towards disability—and the lack of understanding which surrounds it—can be more disabling than the disability itself."

Before he can explain further, Mr. Acton's voice is overtaken by the undulating shriek of a New York City ambulance arriving at the nearby Bellevue Hospital. "Inside that ambulance," says Mr. Acton when the siren has died away, "is probably one of the 30 million people who are disabled in traffic accidents every year. That man or woman may now be crippled for life, unable to move around like you or me. But again it is our attitudes, reflected in the design of buildings and transport, which will convert 'not being able to move around too well' into 'not being able to earn a living, go to the theatre, attend church or visit friends'."

Young children are the main victims of such disabling attitudes. The lost years of the little girl in the darkened room, for example, are blank pages which can never be re-written.

"In all nations and cultures," explains Mr. Acton, "the child passes through certain well-known stages of mental, physical and emotional development. It's a building process. The stages of learning to control muscles, to smile, to interact with others, to walk, to talk, to play, to control temper, to learn ever more complex things, to give and to receive happiness, to become a mature person—are all built one on the other. If stages in that development are interrupted or missed out, then the foundation stones for the next stage of development are not laid and all the subsequent stages can be sabotaged. That's why ignorance and misunderstanding can be so shockingly disabling to the young child. And that's why the approach to childhood disability must be based

on minimising its impact on the normal processes of child development."

Excluded children

It was this philosophy which Norman Acton and his Rehabilitation International colleagues took with them on their mission to 14 developing countries to recommend policies to UNICEF which might help to lighten the weight of disability on 150 million young lives.

"The most distressing thing that we found," says Mr. Acton now, "was the number of disabled children who are excluded—from school, from play, from family life, from going to market, from religious events, from entertainment, from learning a job."

"These children are the ones who most need stimulation and involvement. But so many of them are just locked out of life. And as the years go by, they become more and more disabled."

"Sometimes it's because the parents are ashamed, or because they think that their child's disability is a punishment to themselves. Most often, it's because they are poor—already on the brink of existence—and the extra burden is just too much to cope with."

"So overall social and economic development is vital. But with just a little more help, just a little more trained support for the families of the disabled, so many children could develop normally."

The costs

But isn't it too much to expect developing countries, with so many pressing problems to devote scarce resources to expensive treatment for a small minority of the people?

"Challenging that idea," says Mr. Acton, "is one of the main tasks for the Year of the Disabled. It's not a small minority—it's ten per cent of the population, it's 450 million people in the world, it's 150 million children in the developing countries alone. And doing something about it needn't cost the earth."

"Strategies of basic services to meet basic needs, including primary health care to improve community health at low cost, have been pioneered in some developing countries and are now being widely advocated by UNICEF. If such strategies really take off, then not only can they bring great benefit to the population in general they can also do a great deal to minimise the impact of disability."

"Advising on nutrition and organising immunisation programmes for pregnant women and young children, for example, are services which primary health care workers can do and offer. And because malnutrition and ill-



"At least 10 per cent of any given population is likely to have been born with, or to have acquired, a physical or mental disability," says Mr. Norman Acton, secretary-general of Rehabilitation International. (Drawing by Richard Wilson)

ness in pregnancy and the first few months of life are the world's biggest causes of impairments in children, so these services could dramatically reduce the incidence of disability—and at very low cost.

"If the monitoring of the child's mental and physical development were also a part of the training of community health workers, then many impairments could be recognised much more quickly. And early identification is vital if an impairment—and its impact on normal child development—is to be minimised."

The most dramatic example of Mr. Acton's belief that a lot can be done with a little is that an estimated quarter of a million children lose their eyesight each year from the lack of Vitamin A. That problem could be solved by a daily handful of green vegetables—or by adding Vitamin A to other foods such as tea, sugar or cereal, at a cost of about five cents per person per year.

"But most of the treatment available today in the developing

UNICEF feature

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child in every ten in the world is physically or mentally disabled. (Photograph by Norman Potter for the Leonard Cheshire Foundation)

Business failures in Japan reach highest level since '77 blackspot

TOKYO, Dec. 28 (AP)—Japan's economy is being troubled by an alarming number of bankruptcies among small and medium-sized companies which form the backbone of the nation's phenomenal post-war economic growth. There were 1,631 business failures in November, with combined debts of 255 billion yen (\$1.2 billion).

Tokyo Shoko Research Ltd., a business credit survey company which tabulates business failures, said almost 18,000 companies will go broke this year, making 1980

the second worst year in history, following the 18,471 failures in 1977.

Almost all are small and medium-sized enterprises, with 50 to 150 workers. Unlike the automotive and electronics giants, they have been swamped by surging energy costs and falling consumer demand.

"The appreciation of the yen against the dollar, rising fuel costs and growing competition from developing nations — they all combined to drive us in a hole,"

said Mr. Mitsuo Shimizu, accountant for the Yoei Electric Manufacturing Co., which went under this fall.

"We started to feel the pinch in 1977," said Mr. Shimizu, whose company was formed in 1960, amid an economic boom, and made a name as an exporter of tape recorder and radio cassettes.

Led by the big export industries, Japan's economy has weathered the oil shocks and stagflation of the 1970 and government forecasts put economic growth in fiscal

year 1981 at 5.3 percent, up from a projected 4.8 per cent this fiscal year and well ahead of the Western countries.

The rise in consumer prices is expected to be less than 7 per cent this year, and will drop to 5 per cent in 1981, the government said.

Big industry has learned to move to the beat of a slower drum by reducing employees, conserving energy, coordinating closely with the government and convincing labour to accept lower annual raises.

They have also stayed ahead of the game by what the Japanese call "cutting their tails," removing such expendable elements as the small company satellites which depend on big industry contracts.

"Small companies were hit hard by the rationalisation of big industry after the 1974 oil crisis," said Mr. Shunichi Nakao, chief of the bankruptcy policy section of the small and medium enterprises agency.

Other factors in the recent rash of bankruptcies, Mr. Nakao said, are the belt-tightening of consumers whose real incomes have levelled off or dropped, and the government's fiscal austerity policies which have clamped down on public works projects. A bad blow to the construction industry.

Many critics say the nation's banks, many affiliated with industrial conglomerates, and the big business-oriented government have ignored the struggling little man.

The government has begun a counselling programme to help smaller companies and has increased the number of "hardship industries" such as textile makers eligible for low-interest government loans, but Mr. Nakao acknowledged their efforts are not always enough. Mr. Futaya Fukuda, senior official at Taikoku Koshinso Ltd., another credit research firm, said there "are too many companies in trouble for the government to help them all."

"We should look at the problem coolly," he said. "The Japanese economy is becoming more modern and efficient, shifting from manufacturing to service and high technology industries."

Oil price increase doubled until May

NICOSIA, Dec. 28 (AP)—Kuwait's oil minister was quoted as saying yesterday he did not expect any increase in the oil prices set in Bali by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) until its next meeting in May.

Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah was quoted by the *Middle East Economic Survey* (MEES) as adding that the pressure of an emerging oil surplus in the market might be sufficient to prevent any price increase before next May.

MEES quoted the Kuwaiti minister as explaining that most OPEC members would opt for a deemed market crude price of \$35 a barrel, within the permissible band of \$32 to \$38 a barrel set during OPEC's meeting in Bali earlier this month.

African producers would settle for \$40 a barrel, rather than the allowed maximum of \$41, Sheikh Ali was further quoted as saying.

Sheikh Ali was quoted as saying OPEC was not supposed to discuss prices again until its next ordinary conference at the end of May in Geneva.

Asked whether the Bali ceilings were meant to hold until the May meeting, Sheikh Ali was quoted as saying: "Hopefully yes. The intention is to hold these prices and not go beyond them until the mid-year meeting. And, given the anticipated pattern of supply and demand, it is unlikely that anything will happen at this meeting to remove these limits. A lot of us are expecting a surplus in the market by then."

Sheikh Ali was quoted as explaining the expected surplus would not be enough "to exert downward pressure on these present prices, but at least sufficient for these prices not to increase."

"That is to say there is likely to be pressure on the prevailing prices, but not enough to bring about a reduction or break in official price levels," he was quoted as adding.

Sweden's trade deficit swelled

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 28 (SIP)—Sweden's foreign trade over the first eleven months of 1980 resulted in a deficit of Kr. 11,000 million (\$2,560 million), compared with Kr. 4,210 million in January-November 1979, according to preliminary figures published by the National Central Bureau of Statistics.

Imports over the eleven months were up 16 per cent to Kr. 129,800 million, while exports rose 11 per cent to Kr. 118,800 million.

Foreign trade over the four-month period August-November was down an estimated 5 per cent in volume compared with the same period 1979, and the November trade was also down in value in comparison with the same month 1979, imports dropping 7 per cent to Kr. 11,700 million and exports 2 per cent to Kr. 11,600 million.

The trade deficit, Kr. 100 million, compares with a deficit of Kr. 740 million in November 1979.

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AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low	Closing Price
Islamic Bank 50%	JD 1,000	4,436	1,780	1,780	1,780
Jordan-Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	8,500	2,330	2,330	2,330
Jordan-Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	12,993	1,660	1,670	1,660
Housing Bank	JD 1,000	200	2,060	2,060	2,060
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1,000	1,700	1,710	1,710	1,710
Industrial Development Bank	JD 1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500
Bank of Jordan	JD 5,000	50	14,450	14,450	14,450
Arab Financial Foundation (Jordan) 80%	JD 10,000	25	11,550	11,550	11,550
Arab Union Insurance Co.	JD 1,000	350	1,500	1,480	1,480
General Insurance Co. (Old)	JD 1,000	1,000	1,520	1,520	1,520
General Insurance Co. (New)	JD 1,000	1,650	1,460	1,430	1,430
Arabian Seas Insurance Co. Ltd.	JD 1,000	200	10,700	10,650	10,650
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	3,774	2,050	2,030	2,030
Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	650	0,940	0,940	0,940
Arabian Investment and International Trading Co.	JD 1,000	1,000	0,850	0,850	0,850
International Construction and Investments Co.	JD 1,000	17,010	0,850	0,850	0,850
Jordan Cattle and Poultry Co.	JD 1,000	2,340	0,700	0,700	0,700
Dar Al Sha'b For Press and Publications	JD 1,000	250	0,940	0,930	0,930
Gurage Owners Federation Office Co.	JD 1,000	1,056	6,260	6,260	6,260
Jordan Dairy Co. (New)	JD 1,000	975	1,300	1,290	1,290
General Mining Co.	JD 1,000	3,700	1,520	1,510	1,510
Arab Aluminium Industries Co.	JD 1,000	7,820	1,240	1,210	1,210
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1,000	250	3,470	3,460	3,460
Arab Chemical Detergents Industries	JD 1,000	2,855	2,810	2,800	2,810
National Steel Industries	JD 1,000	3,950	1,940	1,930	1,940
Jordan Glass Factories Co.	JD 1,000	2,200	0,800	0,800	0,800
Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1,000	500	0,760	0,760	0,760
Jordan Paper and Cardboard Factories Co.	JD 1,000	2,550	1,490	1,490	1,490
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co.	JD 1,000	2,099	3,420	3,400	3,400
Jordan Lime and Silicate Bricks Industries Co.	JD 5,000	2,600	5,660	5,660	5,660
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes Co.	JD 5,000	350	10,000	10,000	10,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Industries Co.	JD 5,000	111	28,100	28,100	28,100
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 5,000	1,760	9,070	9,070	9,070

Total volume of shares traded on Sunday, Dec. 28, 1980: JD 175,624

Total number of shares traded: 89,804

Government Development Bonds

Year of Maturity	Par Value	Number Traded	Volume Traded	High	Low
1980 8 1/4%	JD 10,000	230	2,300	10,000	10,000
1990 8 1/4%	JD 10,000	100	1,000	10,000	10,000

Total volume of bonds traded on Sunday, Dec. 28, 1980: JD 3,300

Total number of bonds traded: 330

Kuwait to set up \$380 million company for external oil exploration

KUWAIT, Dec. 28 (AP)—Kuwait today decided to set up a \$380 million company for external oil exploration, it was reported by Mr. Abdul Aziz Hussain, a state oil official.

He told reporters that the state-owned venture exploration operations outside the country will be supervised by Kuwait Petroleum Corporation.

Greece joins EEC on Jan 1

BRUSSELS, Dec. 28 (AP)—Greece joins the European Economic Community (EEC) on New Year's Day, tying its future to the world's tightest association of free nations.

Under the mechanics of entry, tariffs between Greece and the other nine countries will be dissolved in stages over a five year period.

The Greek drachma will become one of the currencies in the sliding-scaled European monetary system and Greek commercial relations with non-member countries will conform to the EEC rules.

Greek will become the EEC's seventh official language, taking its place alongside English, German, French, Dutch, Danish and Italian.

The addition of the Greek shipping fleet will make the Common Market the number one shipping power in the world and the community will also benefit from Greek bauxite for aluminum, nickel, asbestos, zinc — minerals the Common Market now must import.

power in the world and the community will also benefit from Greek bauxite for aluminum, nickel, asbestos, zinc — minerals the Common Market now must import.

Mr. George Kontogeorgis said.

Many Greek politicians, notably opponents of the government, are concerned about the impact of tariff-free goods flooding into Greece in competition with the country's generally less organised industry.

The same is true of agriculture. Harmonisation of farm prices with higher Common Market prices could cause food costs to rise.

At the same time, Greek entry will pose problems for the other members. Greece will be the poorest of the ten, with per capita domestic product of less than \$3,500, an inflation rate now close to 25 per cent a year and a trade deficit of \$6.2 billion in 1979.

The huge outflow of Common Market money for oil is already

one of the common problems and G indigenous supply than \$2 billion a year.

One indication level is a recent E give Greece — with the Common Market people — a 13 money from the poverty program.

Greeks blame the equally blame. ICAP said that the ple polled, four to two opposed it, a care or declined it.

Among those Greek member Andreas Papand the opposition Socialist Movement pledged to renego bringing Greece in wins the 1981 gen

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May herald further round of domestic brinkmanship Poland's farmers to press demand for free union

WARSAW, Dec. 28 (R) — Poland's private farmers' union, whose militant leaders have threatened to withhold produce from the state, said today it was going ahead with a mass rally in Warsaw on Tuesday to back demands for registration of the Solidarity-style organisation.

The rally outside the supreme court, which is scheduled to review a lower court rejection of the farmers' application, will mark the end of a brief Christmas lull in Poland's political and social crisis. It will be the first of a series of tricky problems facing the communist authorities as they look ahead to the new year.

Other major issues stemming from the emergence last summer of the Solidarity free trade union include a law on relaxation of censorship, legalisation of new union freedoms, implementation of a shorter working week and introduction of nationwide food rationing.

Two other union-related problems remained as Poland prepared for 1981 — demands by Solidarity to print its own newspaper and a campaign organised by the union for the release of seven detained anti-communist dissidents.

Many of these questions should have been resolved by the end of 1980 in accordance with government promises to strikers.

But the necessary decisions have been delayed by continuing political and industrial unrest, uncertainty and, as in the case of rationing, by the sheer technical difficulties of arranging so much so quickly.

The outcome of the supreme court hearing on the private farmers' union will be important because there are some three million small landowners in Poland and legalisation of their movement would mean the appearance of another mass power base outside direct Communist Party control.

The application for registration was turned down in the lower courts on grounds that landowners cannot be members of a labour union.

Polish Party leader Stanislaw Kania indicated in December that he did not like the idea of a farmers' union. He said the agricultural industry did not need new organisations.

But the union, closely linked to Solidarity, already has *de facto* existence and its leaders claim a membership of more than 500,000.

Private farming has survived in communist Poland as a feature of life which, like the strong Roman Catholic Church, makes this country different from its eastern bloc neighbours.

Some 80 per cent of the land is tilled by smallholders, but their needs have been neglected in recent years in favour of state farms and cooperatives.

Officials acknowledge that neglect of private farming has contributed to Poland's acute food crisis. They have promised to invest more in the private sector.

The problem of free Saturdays is likely to be another issue prominent in the new year. If a pre-Christmas squabble was any indication, the question could mean that Solidarity and the government are set for another round of brinkmanship after a strike moratorium ends on Jan. 15.

Introduction of free Saturdays was one of the concessions wrung from the authorities by strikers in Gdansk last August.

Poles currently work on average three Saturdays a month. But the Gdansk agreement did not specify the time scale for the abolition of the working Saturday.

Meanwhile, the leader of Poland's Solidarity union, Lech Walesa, was quoted today as saying that Soviet tanks could never force the Poles to work, although it was work that his country needed.

In an interview with the news magazine *Le Point*, Mr. Walesa avoided a direct answer when asked whether he would call for a national uprising in the event of Soviet intervention.

"The Soviet Union claims to be a friend of Poland, and normally you do not expect a low blow from a friend," he said.

"Anyhow, the tanks can threaten and massacre us, but they will never be able to force us to work. And it is work that we need."

Le Point, which chose Mr. Walesa as its man of the year, interviewed the Polish workers' leader in his apartment in Gdansk.

Attacks made against the West during the recent Moscow visit of Polish Foreign Minister Jozef Czerwinski were seen in Warsaw, yesterday as part of an intensive campaign by Poland to reassure its eastern bloc allies.

Diplomatic sources said it was significant that the most vigorous denunciation of the West was made by Mr. Czerwinski himself in a speech at a Moscow luncheon on Friday.

Mr. Czerwinski was doubtless pleasing Moscow and also demonstrating to the Soviet Union that the Polish leadership is fully aware of the dangers inherent in experiments with free trade unionism and liberal reforms, though in his own speech he went much further.

World News Briefs

Opposition criticises Gandhi over Afghanistan

NEW DELHI, Dec. 28 (R) — Opposition leader Atal Bihari Vajpayee today accused Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's government of tarnishing India's image by "acquiescing in the Soviet Union's military intervention in Afghanistan."

Addressing a convention of his Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) near Bombay, he said it was significant that a joint statement ending Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's visit to India earlier this month did not mention Afghanistan.

Mrs. Gandhi and her government have said they would like to see a Soviet withdrawal but have stopped short of condemning Moscow for the intervention.

Mr. Vajpayee, external affairs minister in the former Janata government, said all Indians appreciated the value of Moscow's friendship and would like to see it strengthened.

But it is a very different thing if Indo-Soviet friendship turned into Indo-Soviet alignment and India's views of world affairs became indistinguishable from those of the Soviet Union, he said.

8-million year old skull found in China

TOKYO, Dec. 28 (AP) — Chinese scientists have found the skull of an early pre-man, dating back eight million years, in a colliery in southwest China, the official Xinhua news agency reported yesterday.

Xinhua said the Chinese Academy of Sciences reported that some lower jaws and teeth of this kind of pre-man, *ramapithecus*, have been found at the same site in the past few years.

The site where the discovery was made, Xinhua said, was Shihui colliery in Lufeng county, Yunnan province, southwest China.

The report said jaw fragments and teeth have also been discovered in six other countries in the past 50 years. However, Xinhua said, this is the first skull to be discovered.

Xinhua said the find provides valuable material for establishing the time of the origin of man and the position of this pre-man in the history of evolution.

The scientists also found a number of fossils from ancient rhinoceroses and elephants.

Housing shortage provokes Berlin violence

BERLIN, Dec. 28 (AP) — Gangs of youths supporting a "squatters' rights" housing movement shattered windows, vandalised stores and started several fires in downtown West Berlin during the two-day Christmas holiday, authorities said yesterday.

The violence broke out despite a truce between city authorities and squatters after a series of street battles and apartment takeovers that left scores of injured.

Police said the youths set fire to a church, a post office, and several other buildings during the holidays. All fires were extinguished and no arrests or injuries were reported.

Many raids appeared to have been planned simultaneously in different places to spread police forces thin, authorities said.

The youths were protesting a citywide housing shortage, which exists while blocks of apartments stand empty, awaiting renovation or destruction. They blame real estate speculation for the shortage.

Groups of squatters have formed to occupy some of the abandoned buildings in an attempt to obtain free lodging or force the government to create more housing.

Salvadorean guerrillas launch major offensive

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, Dec. 28 (AP) — Leftist guerrillas mounted a major attack in northern El Salvador against troops loyal to the ruling civilian-military junta yesterday and heavy fighting was under way, a military source said.

"A large number of guerrillas" and at least three soldiers were killed in the fighting, said the army source who asked anonymity.

Government and official military spokesmen refused to comment on the report, which could not be confirmed independently because of a cut in communications with the area.

An estimated 1,000 guerrillas are taking part in the attack in Chalatenango, a province 700 kilometres north of the Central American capital, said the source.

He said government reinforcements were being rushed to the area included infantry, planes and helicopters. The source refused to

give details of the military deployments.

"The attack can be considered one of the strongest the leftists have launched in that region and it could be an attempt by the Marxist-Leninists to control a zone where they can set up a revolutionary government," the source said.

"Of course, they will not succeed because combined army forces are on the way to the area to control the situation," the source added.

Chalatenango, a province bounded by hills, is near the border with Honduras, and the source said the terrain "makes counter-insurgency operations difficult." The area has been a hotbed of guerrilla activity in recent months.

As recently as Christmas Day, army troops and guerrillas fought pitched battles along two stretches of a remote dirt highway in the mountains around Chalatenango,

when guerrillas attacked cities along the road. On the night of Dec. 25, only the town of Chalatenango remained under government control. All three towns are kilometres from Chalatenango, a military regained the towns of Arzaco and

Other army sources said current attacks were part of a United Revolutionary front, a group of leftist guerrillas organised to overthrow the government and set up a Marxist regime.

The directorate, which itself the Farabundo National Liberation Front announced in leading in the Salvadorean hour of decisive triumph" would be a week.

Jiang dares Peking court to pass death sentence

'Better to die than to yield'

PEKING, Dec. 28 (AP) — The widow of Chairman Mao Tse-tung has dared China's highest court to sentence her to death at a public rally and proclaimed "It is more glorious to have my head chopped off" than to yield, Chinese sources reported yesterday.

They said the prosecutor called for "severe punishment" for her and cited Article 103 of the criminal code which calls for a death sentence in the gravest counter-revolutionary cases.

The sources said 67-year-old Jiang Qing flung down the gauntlet on Wednesday in court as she delivered a three-hour defence statement. They said she denounced her accusers and China's corrupt leadership as "revisionists" who betrayed the doctrines of Chairman Mao.

"I dare you people to sentence me to death in front of one million people in (Peking's central) Tiananmen Square," the sources quoted Jiang Qing as saying to the supreme people's court.

She and her Gang of Four co-defendants face a possible death sentence if convicted of treason, frameups and fatal persecutions. Virtually all death sentences in China are carried out by a single executioner with a pistol.

The hearing was recessed yesterday for the third consecutive day and the Chinese sources said authorities were deciding how to refute Jiang Qing's arguments and invocation of Mao.

The prosecutor later will make a final statement and Jiang Qing, too, will have a final word. The proceedings are not expected to end until early January.

During her trial, which began on Nov. 9, Jiang Qing repeatedly has insisted that she acted at Mao's behest. Sources said that on Wednesday she accused the court of putting Chairman Mao Tse-tung on trial by prosecuting his widow.

She angrily reminded the court that she was the widow of the founder of the Chinese Communist Party, the People's Liberation Army, and the people's Republic of China, the sources said.

"Jiang Qing ferociously defended the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution which now is officially called a 'catastrophe,'" She committed her alleged crimes during that chaotic period of purges.

Revolution which now is officially called a "catastrophe." She committed her alleged crimes during that chaotic period of purges.

The sources said Jiang Qing argued that the Cultural Revolution was justified and approved by the party central committee itself.

She also said Chairman Mao himself and the late premier Chou Enlai both knew of her activities and investigations; now called illegal persecutions, the sources said.

She said Chou in particular was well aware of her accusations against President Liu Shao-chi and his American-born wife—the most celebrated victims of the Cultural Revolution.

She is accused of murdering the fatal persecution of Liu who died in prison in 1969. His wife was imprisoned for nearly 12 years after both were denounced by her as "counter-revolutionaries."

Madame Mao also is accused of ordering the illegal homes to collect evidence against her enemies. She said the court such search is perfectly legal and justifies Cultural Revolution.

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China is now reassessing the role of the nation's founder, the 'Great Helmsman' -- Mao Tse-tung

Demise of a demi-god

PEKING, Dec. 28 (AP) — From his formerly almost unassailable position as a virtual deity who could do no wrong, the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung has gradually been desanctified by China's more pragmatic new leaders. His ideas and policies have similarly been discredited.

Portraits of Mao have been hauled away from Peking's central square as "lacking solemnity." The study of his *Little Red Book* is dismissed as a "joke." His "Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution" is officially condemned as a "catastrophe."

The 87th birthday of Chairman Mao, founder of modern China, passed without fanfare and faint recognition yesterday as the

Communist Party prepared to formally knock Mao from his ideological pedestal and repudiate his legacy of struggle.

China's leading newspapers did not mention his birthday but indirectly praised Mao's earliest revolutionary days, while saying nothing about his now heavily criticised later years.

The party paper, *People's Daily* published a 43-year-old letter in

which Mao warned against special privilege within the party — a dominant theme in the current party discipline campaign.

It also published on the back page a pastoral painting of the young chairman mingling with the shepherds. A commentary said Mao was correct in 1945 when he cited the fable of the foolish old man who moved mountains.

The tale was misinterpreted and given a fanatical element, it said, but Mao was correct in saying that China must have the spirit and energy of the old man to build socialism.

The pointed harkening back to Mao's early period and original ideas is regarded as a foreshadowing of a formal reassessment and severe downgrading

persecutions and factional warfare known as the Cultural Revolution.

Two weeks ago party general secretary Hu Yaobang proclaimed: "It is the unanimous view of our party that... the so-called Great Cultural Revolution was a period of catastrophe. Nothing was correct or positive. The whole thing was negative." And Mao himself is now directly to blame.

Last Monday the party unleashed its strongest and most precise attack on Mao, declaring he "personally launched and led" the Cultural Revolution. Heretofore, he only bore an abstract responsibility for setting the wheels in motion and not putting a stop to its excesses.

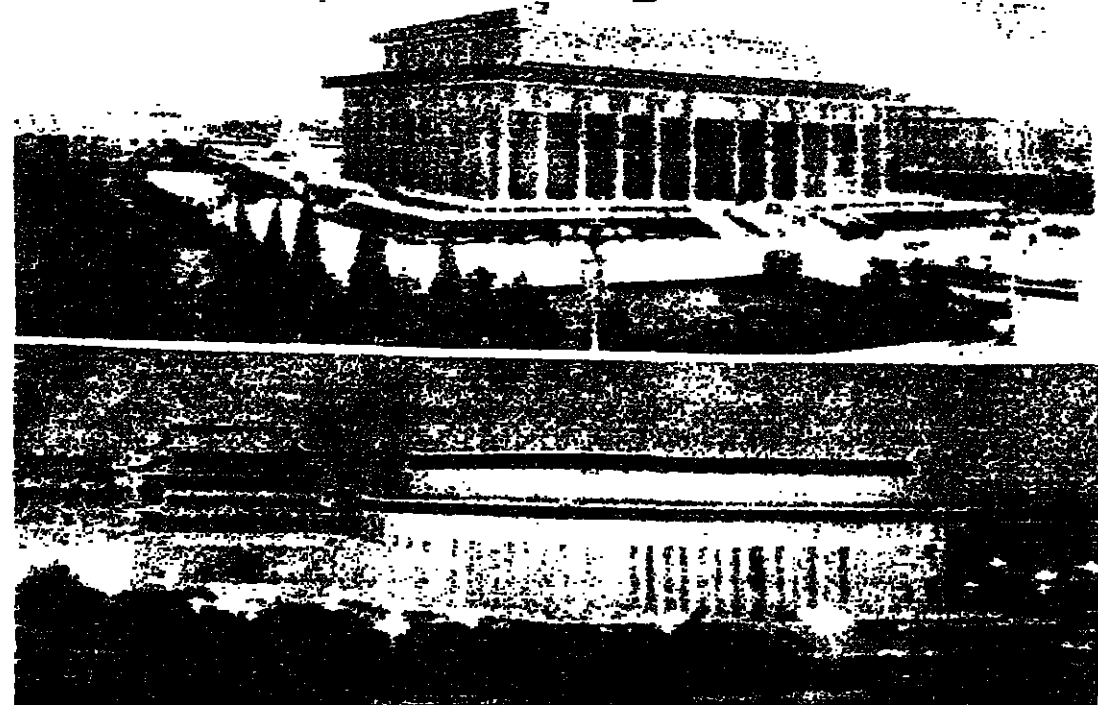
In the last year the once unsassailable leader has suffered devastating

Jiang Qing is on trial with her radical Gang of Four codefendants who have come to epitomise the fanaticism and evils of the period, and she reportedly insists that her actions were approved by Mao himself.

China's leadership, most of them persecuted during the Cultural Revolution, reportedly believe the ideological bulldozing of Mao is necessary to clear the way to modernisation and material progress.

The Communist Party now says the inertia or outright opposition among millions of party members, leaders and others who hold "leftist" Maoist ideas.

Those people, who achieved position during the Cultural



The imposing tomb of the former party chairman.

of Mao by the party central committee next month. China's current pragmatic leaders are expected to maintain that Mao was correct in the early years after the founding of the new China in 1949.

But the party is expected to say in a formal document that Mao made grave mistakes after 1956: the persecutions of the "anti-rightist campaign" of 1957, the disastrous "Great Leap Forward" into industrialisation and instant creation of people's communes in 1958.

Those mistakes caused damage but were nothing compared to the blackest epoch of all: the 1966-76 period of class struggle, purges, tating, terminal criticism.

On his birthday last year the

People's Daily began an erosion of his reputation. At that time a commentary said Mao himself opposed the idea of "Mao Tse-tung thought" and said it was collective wisdom.

On the very eve of his birthday this year, the *Worker's Daily* commented, "amid cheers of 'long live,' the leader's mistakes went a long time without being corrected, bringing great destruction and disaster to the political life of the party and state and the economy and cultural life."

A year ago Mao's stock was still too high, his followers still too influential to permit the current trial of his widow for her alleged offences during the Cultural Revolution.

Today his 67-year-old widow

Revolution, distrust the pragmatic ideas of leaders like Deng Xiaoping they fear China has abandoned its revolutionary ideas of class struggle and egalitarianism and seeking too much after material incentives, bonuses and bourgeois ways.

But their position has steadily been undercut in the last year. Last summer workmen with cranes and torches removed monolithic portraits of Mao and his revolutionary slogans from public buildings. Chinese leaders said they "lacked solemnity" and promoted personality worship.

Last January the *People's Daily* called the religious study of Mao's *Little Red Book* of quotations "a joke." It said, however, the mindless memorisation of Mao's words "has not totally disappeared."

Karmal renews offer of talk with Iranian, Pakistani regin

MOSCOW, Dec. 28 (Agencies) — Afghan Premier Babrak Karmal, speaking yesterday on the first anniversary of the Soviet-backed coup that brought him to power, acknowledged serious damage to the economy by anti-government forces and announced a new "Fatherland Front" to help unite the nation, the Soviet news agency TASS reported.

Mr. Karmal, speaking in Kabul, also repeated his offers to Pakistan and Iran to negotiate with them guarantees of non-interference in Afghan affairs. Previous such offers by Afghanistan have been ignored by both countries.

Mr. Karmal said an organising committee will be set up to establish the "National Fatherland Front," an idea that has been under consideration in Kabul for some months. The Front, he said, will unite workers, farmers, and "all patriotic social, national and religious forces for the good of the fatherland."

The Front apparently would be aimed at consolidating more support for Mr. Karmal's government, which Western analysts believe is still largely sustained by Soviet assistance and power.

Foreign diplomats in Kabul believe Mr. Karmal's party, suffering from infighting between its two wings, has so far failed to significantly widen its narrow base of support.

Over the past few months the government has been trying to organise conferences of writers, teachers, medical workers, young people, women and other social groups in order to mobilise support for its aims.

The anniversary of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan has been generally played down by the Kremlin, and so far no official message of congratulations has been sent to Kabul.

But the official press claims that life is normal in Afghanistan and that the ruling winning the battle against insurgents.

Mr. Karmal, who was said to be addressing representatives of the nation's "national patriotic forces," asserted that the Afghan people's Soviet allies have "overturned the international reaction" against Afghanistan.

Mr. Karmal also said, according to an account of his speech that the Soviet Union ready to give Afghanistan additional help.

Mr. Karmal said that at his Moscow meeting with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev it was declared that in the struggle for a new society and in the cause of defending it of their revolution, the Afghan people can in the future as well on the support of the people," TASS said.

There was no elaboration on what additional support might be forthcoming. In addition estimated 85,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan substantial economic aid and political advice.

Mr. Karmal acknowledged "serious damage" to the economy by anti-government groups.

He also renewed a call to Iran and Pakistan to negotiate with Kabul with an eye to non-interference from outside in Afghan affairs. Neither Iran nor Pakistan recognises the government, and many of the guerrillas of Mr. Karmal's regime operate from Pakistan.

He said Afghanistan has done away with "criminal regime" of former president Hafiz Amin, his predecessor in power, and now confidently into the future.



One of many statues of Mao which are still to be found in China. Less permanent reminders such as the once ubiquitous portraits of the late leader have been removed from public buildings.